



**ENGINEERING OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 17, 2008 – 9:00 A.M.
MULTI-MODAL CONFERENCE ROOM**

<i>Present:</i>	L. Tibbits J. D. Culp C. Bleech	J. Polasek T. Kratofil	J. W. Reincke T. Fudaly
<i>Absent:</i>	J. Friend C. Roberts	B. O'Brien E. Burns	M. Van Port Fleet
<i>Guests:</i>	J. Staton T. Palmer T. Frake	I. Gedaoun J. Hofweber J. Gaus	D. Morena, FHWA J. Myers

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of the June 5, 2008, Meeting Minutes – L. Tibbits

The June 5, 2008, meeting minutes are approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Bureau of Operations' Power Reduction Initiatives – J. D. Culp

MDOT created a Green Initiative Team to address the Governor's directive for a 10 percent reduction in energy use. Larry Tibbits requested a report on the Bureau of Operations' current initiatives to reduce energy consumption. The preliminary findings on energy consumption indicate electrical use is down by 4.2 percent and gas use is down by 10.5 percent in 2007 (compared to use in 2003). Further initiatives are being investigated to meet the full 10 percent requirement.

ACTION: Jim Culp will forward the bureau's report on energy reduction initiatives to the Green Initiative Team.

2. MDOT Compliance With FHWA Final Rule on Worker Visibility – J. Gaus

FHWA 23 CRF, Part 634, requires that all workers within the right-of-way of a federal aid highway wear high visibility clothing that meets ANSI 107-2004, Class 2 or 3. This includes maintenance workers, construction workers, survey crews, utility crews, news reporters, tow truck drivers, firefighters, and law enforcement (with the exception of activities associated with routine traffic stops, and pursuit and apprehension of suspects).

There is some resistance within the law enforcement community on compliance. The Safety and Security Administration Office is requesting management to meet with the Michigan State Police to secure support, endorsement, and compliance when law enforcement is

directing traffic, investigating crashes, handling lane closures or performing other duties on our highways other than normal/routine traffic stops.

EOC will pursue this support using the following methods:

- Place this on the agenda for the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission.
- Discuss this issue at spring meetings with enforcement agencies when discussing safety funding.
- Check into the possibility of providing reimbursement for vests.
- Jim Gaus will contact Major Charles Andrews, Chief, Administrative Division, Alabama Department of Public Safety, who may be able to provide some suggestions on how to work with enforcement agencies regarding this issue.

3. ***Michigan Intersection Guide – I Gedaoun and M. Bott***

This guide is to ensure uniform treatment of intersections throughout the State trunkline system. It provides strategies to improve safety and operations at both signalized and unsignalized intersections. It also describes the different types of intersections, outline countermeasures that are available to correct deficiencies, and estimates capacities for various types of intersections.

Additional comments/suggestions were provided at the meeting.

ACTION: EOC approves the guide with minor modifications.

4. ***Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Mixture Selection Guidelines – C. Bleech and S. Palmer***

The proposed HMA selection guidelines eliminate the use of Marshall HMA mixes on MDOT trunkline projects, thus making Superpave HMA the standard. There will be some projects in 2009 that may have Marshall mixes due to the time frame of turning in 2009 projects for letting. Attempts should be made to switch 2009 construction projects that are not in the letting process to Superpave, but will not be mandated. Requests from contractors to switch 2009 construction projects from Marshall to Superpave should be considered.

ACTION: EOC approves the guidelines for use on all 2009 and subsequent year projects that are currently not in the letting process.

5. ***Artificial Heat to Dry Joints in New Concrete Pavements – J. Staton***

Contractor's use of artificial heat (heat lance) to dry pavement joint reservoir prior to joint sealing is suspect to be a factor contributing to premature concrete deterioration. As a result, a small study of two concrete cores taken to investigate the potential detriments. The study was inclusive with regard to the full impact of using heat lances. The local and national technical community recognizes this as a detrimental practice to green concrete and recommends that it not be allowed. The FHWA sent a letter stating they will not participate in projects that allow the heat lance. It was noted that pavements have successfully been constructed without the use of the heat lance.

ACTION: EOC approves the prohibition of using heat lances and other open flame devices for drying pavement joint reservoirs. The Construction and Technology Division will issue a construction advisory regarding this.

Additionally, a special provision will be developed to address this issue on all future projects. There may be projects that are currently under construction that are impacted by the prohibition. These projects should be evaluated on an individual basis to determine the potential impacts and the course of action to be taken.

6. Proposed Roundabout Construction on US-127BR at N. Mission Street, City of Clare, Isabella County, CS 37015/JN 87485 – J. Hofweber

MDOT is proposing the reconstruction of US-127BR at North Mission Street in the city of Clare as a roundabout. The Mt. Pleasant TSC staff partnered with the City of Clare in developing this location. Pedestrians are routed away from the roundabout in the proposed reconstruction configuration. There will be public relations efforts to educate citizens on how roundabouts operate as they are new to the area.

ACTION: Approved.

7. Roundabout Guidance Document Revision – T. Palmer

Recommendations for single lane roadway roundabouts where pedestrians are present are included in the current MDOT roundabout guide; however, there is currently no recommended configuration for multiple lanes. New concepts have been developed in other states to address multiple lane roundabouts. Revisions to the roundabout guidance document are needed to include recommendations for when pedestrians are present on both single and multiple lane roadways.

ACTION: Terry Palmer will reconstitute the Roundabout Guide Committee and review the various geometric layouts when there are multiple lanes and pedestrians. A recommendation will be made for the geometric configuration that is best suited for pedestrian traffic.

(Signed Copy on File at C&T)

Curtis Bleach for Brenda J. O'Brien, Secretary
Engineering Operations Committee

CB:kar

cc:	K. Steudle	S. Mortel	J. Steele (FHWA)
	J. Shinn	D. Jackson	R. Brenke (ACEC)
	L. Hank	W. Tansil	G. Bukoski (MITA)
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